

State Gem

"Chlorastrolite" (or Greenstone)



Chlorastrolite is a mineral that is formed in association with lava flows. Its common name, "greenstone," comes from its green color. Typical gems have a pattern of overlapping edges, ranging from yellow-green to almost black. Chlorastrolite is derived from three Latin words: *chloros*, Meaning green; *aster*, meaning star; and *lithos*, meaning stone.

Chlorastrolite was named the "official state gem" of Michigan by the 76th Legislature under Public Act 56 of 1972. The Bill that made chlorastrolite the state gem stone was House Bill 4366 of 1972. In Michigan, chlorastrolite pebbles can be found on rocky beaches in Northern Michigan's "copper country," particularly on Isle Royale.